



## CSP Research Priority Announcement Aging Research

June 26, 1998

Office of Research and Development

VA Cooperative Studies Program (CSP)

Research Priority Announcement

Aging Research

The VA Cooperative Studies Program in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute on Aging (NIA) has identified the following aging research content areas as priorities for the conduct of multi-site, randomized clinical trials:

- studies of the management of osteoporosis in men focusing on fracture prevention;
- studies of androgen replacement therapy in older men (with emphasis on factors such as strength and muscle mass, bone density and strength, body composition, serum lipid profile, quality of life, and sexual function);
- studies of perioperative interventions in older patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery;
- studies of approaches to cardiovascular surgery in older patients;
- studies of treatment for diastolic dysfunction among elderly patients with coronary heart failure and normal systolic function;
- studies in long term care settings, for example, studies to prevent morbid infections in Nursing Home Care Units such as lower respiratory infections and catheter-related urinary tract infections;
- studies of the effectiveness of group clinic models for chronic disease management among elderly patients (e.g., staff models, varying patient populations, disease-specific models, function-specific models) and their impact on patient satisfaction, health care utilization, and mortality;

- studies of alternative treatment approaches for patients with potentially terminal illness and the effect on survival, comfort, etc;
- studies to improve the management of behavioral disturbances among institutionalized patients with Alzheimer's disease (e.g., wandering, sleeplessness, vocal outbursts, violence);
- studies of the impact of nutritional interventions in vulnerable geriatric populations (e.g., postoperative, intensive care unit, post hip fracture, etc.);
- studies of multi-factorial and unifactorial interventions on fall-related fractures and their cost-effectiveness; and
- studies to improve the appropriateness, cost-effectiveness, and incidence of adverse effects of medication prescribing in geriatric patients (e.g., use of anti-secretory drugs for GERD and microbial use).

### **Application Process.**

1. Interested investigators should contact Joe Gough, MA, Cooperative Studies Program Analyst, to request a copy of [Instructions for Submission of a CSP Planning Request](#). CSP Planning Requests may be submitted at any time. Please indicate on the Planning Request "Submitted for VA/NIA Collaborative Research".
2. Submit five copies of the CSP Planning Request and curriculum vitae to: VA Headquarters, Cooperative Studies Program (125B), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. All CSP Planning Requests will be reviewed by ad hoc experts in the field of research proposed. Notification of the Planning Request review disposition will be provided in approximately one month.
3. Investigators with an approved CSP Planning Request will be assigned by VA CSP Headquarters to

one of the four VA Cooperative Studies Coordinating Centers for technical assistance and guidance in development of a full study protocol.

John R. Feussner, M.D.

Chief Research and Development Officer